

HEALTH  
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KETTERING  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL  
REPORT

*of the*

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1954

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# Rural District of Kettering

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*Chairman of the Council :*

REV. CANON W. FRANCIS SMITH, J.P., C.A.

*Vice Chairman of the Council :*

MR. A. DONOVAN LANE.

*Clerk to the Council :*

MR. S. H. GILLARD.

*Members of the Public Health Committee : 1954.*

COUNCILLORS: E. W. BARLOW, F. BUTLER, W. E. BUTLER,  
C. H. CHAMPION, W. M. ELLIOT, E. H. ROGERS, R. P. ROWNEY,  
W. SHARP, J. L. M. SINNETT, M.C., H. V. TANSLEY, A. E.  
THODAY, M.B.E., J. A. B. TOWNSIN.

*Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :*

*Medical Officer of Health :*

JAMES CARROLL, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., L.M., D.P.H., D.Ch.

*Also holds the appointments of*

Medical Officer of Health, Burton Latimer Urban District  
Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Corby Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Desborough Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Rothwell Urban District Council.

Assistant County Medical Officer of Health.

School Medical Officer to the Northamptonshire County Council.

*Secretary :*

MISS M. W. LANGLEY.

*Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector :*

CHARLES R. STARMER, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

(Holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate as an Inspector of  
Meat and other Foods.)

FRANKLIN H. VALENTINE, M.R.SAN.I.

(Holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate as an Inspector of  
Meat and other Foods.)

Public Health Department,  
75 London Road,  
KETTERING.

July, 1955.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Kettering Rural District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. GEORGE AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my first Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Rural District for the year 1954.

Dr. J. T. Murphy, your former Medical Officer of Health, resigned during the year and I commenced duty on May 1st, 1955.

The Vital Statistics for the year under review were as follows, for comparison the 1953 figures are included in brackets: —

The population (Registrar General's Estimate) is 11,970 (12,050). The Birth-Rate 14.70 (17.01) is the lowest recorded figure for a number of years. The Death-Rate 10.03 (10.21) has remained relatively constant over the past six years.

The Infantile Mortality Rate 11.36 (39.02) shows a major decrease on past years and must be considered very satisfactory as this rate is an indication of the environmental and social conditions of a community with special reference to housing, overcrowding and maternity and child welfare.

There have been no deaths recorded under the heading of Maternal Mortality for a number of years past and this is very satisfactory.

Comparisons between the Vital Statistics for the Rural District and England and Wales are given throughout the Report.

Sections C, D and E of the Report have been prepared by your Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

Section C deals with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Area and contains detailed information of the Water Supply, Drainage and Sewerage, Rodent Control, Factories and Workshops.

Section D gives an account of the housing progress and the building programme.

Section E deals with the Inspection and Supervision of Food, and it will be noted under the heading of Meat Inspection, that there has been a marked decrease in the number of animals affected with Tuberculosis as compared with pre-war records.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the good wishes they have kindly extended to me on taking up this appointment and also for the kind consideration and help I have received from the Council Staff.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES CARROLL,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

The following summary of the principal statistics for the years  
1950, 1951 1952, 1953 and 1954.

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Area (acres ... ..)	61,680	61,680	60,768	60,768	60,768
Population (Registrar General's estimate) ... ..	11,980	12,190	11,940	12,050	11,970
Number of Live Births ... ..	206	188	194	205	176
Legitimate ... ..	193	179	186	192	165
Illegitimate ... ..	13	9	8	13	11
Birth-rate per 1,000 population	17.19	15.42	16.25	17.01	14.70
Number of Still Births ... ..	2	5	1	8	3
Legitimate ... ..	2	5	1	8	3
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births) ... ..	9.61	25.91	5.13	37.56	16.76
Rate per 1,000 population	0.16	0.41	0.08	0.66	0.25
Number of Deaths ... ..	153	158	130	123	120
Death-rate per 1,000 population	12.77	12.96	10.89	10.21	10.03
Deaths from Pregnancy, Child-birth and Abortion ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... ..	33.98	31.91	30.93	39.02	11.36
Neonatal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... ..	19.41	15.95	20.62	29.27	11.36
*Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	3	4	—	1	—
*Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	3	4	—	1	—
Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms ... ..	30	21	22	17	18
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—	1	—	—	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	—	—	1	—	—
Deaths from Enteritis and Diarrhoea under two years of age ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...	1	—	—	—	—

\*Registrar-General's Figures.

# BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR, 1954

England and Wales ...	Rate per 1,000 Total Population		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population										Rate per 1,000 live Births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid & Para- typhoid Fever	Whooping Cough	Diph- theria	Respiratory Tuber- culosis	Influenza	Small-Pox	Acute Polio- myelitis and Polio- encephalitis	Pneumonia	Diarr- hoea & Enteritis under 2 years		Total Deaths under 1 year
15.2	0.36	11.3	—	0.00	*	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.04	—	0.00	*	0.8	25.5

## Kettering

	Maternal Causes excluding Abortion	Due to Abortion	Total Maternal Mortality
The Maternal Mortality rates for England and Wales per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	0.58	0.11	0.69
Kettering Rural District	—	—	—

\* These are an average for the four quarters of 1954

## SECTION A. Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area (acres) ... ..	60,768
Registrar General's estimate of resident population ...	11,970
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1954) ... ..	3,973
Rateable Value ... ..	£73,254
Sum represented by Penny Rate ... ..	£291. 11. 10

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are as follows:—  
Farming, Iron-stone Quarrying and manufacture of Iron and Steel,  
Steel Tubes and Clothing manufacture.

### Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year :

<b>LIVE BIRTHS</b>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Legitimate ... ..	165	79	86
Illegitimate ... ..	11	4	7
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS ...	176	83	93
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ... .. 14.70

<b>STILL BIRTHS</b>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Legitimate ... ..	3	2	1
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS ...	3	2	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... .. 16.76

<b>DEATHS</b>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
	120	56	64

Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population (crude) 10.03

Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (corrected) 9.43

Death-rate from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion ... .. —

Death-rate of infants under one year of age : —

All infants per 1,000 live births ... .. 11.36

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... .. 12.12

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... .. —

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... .. —

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... .. —

Deaths from Enteritis and Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ... .. —

Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms ... .. 18

Deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ... .. —



**Deaths.**—Comparability factor for 1954 was 0.94. The crude death-rate per 1,000 population for 1954 was 10.03 which multiplied by the comparability factor of 0.94, supplied by the Registrar General, gives a corrected death-rate of 9.43. This death-rate of 9.43 is the rate which, it is assumed, would be arrived at if the age and sex distribution of the population of Kettering Rural District were distributed in the same proportion as that of England and Wales as a whole.

**Births.**—The following table shows the birth-rate for 1954 together with the rate for England and Wales.

**LIVE BIRTH RATES, 1954**

A comparability factor has been issued for 1954 by the Registrar General which allows for the different age and sex distribution of Kettering Rural District and provides a basis for comparison with that of England and Wales as a whole.

Kettering Rural District	...	...	14.70
Kettering Rural District corrected by comparability factor 1.12	...	...	16.46
England and Wales	...	...	15.2

**INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES, 1954**

Infantile mortality is the number of deaths in children under one year of age per 1,000 live births. This is an indication of the environmental and social conditions of a community with special reference to housing, overcrowding, and maternity and child welfare.

Kettering Rural District	...	...	11.36
England and Wales	...	...	25.5

**NEONATAL MORTALITY RATES, 1954**

Neonatal Mortality is the number of deaths in children under four weeks of age per 1,000 live births.

Kettering Rural District	...	...	11.36
England and Wales	...	...	17.7

The causes of deaths in children under one year of age with age and sex distribution are given in the following table: —

**DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE**

<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>
4 hours	F.	Erythroblastosis foetalis P.M.
3 days	M.	Pneumonia.Atelectasis Right Lung.



The registered causes of death were as follows:—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
All causes ... ..	56	64	120
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	—	—	—
2. Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—
8. Measles ... ..	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm stomach ...	—	4	4
11. Malignant neoplasm lung bronchus	1	—	1
12. Malignant neoplasm breast ...	—	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm uterus ...	—	—	—
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	9	3	12
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	—	1	1
16. Diabetes ... ..	—	—	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	8	13
18. Coronary disease, angina ... ..	6	4	10
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	3	3	6
20. Other heart disease ... ..	12	21	33
21. Other circulatory disease ... ..	3	5	8
22. Influenza ... ..	—	—	—
23. Pneumonia ... ..	1	—	1
24. Bronchitis ... ..	4	1	5
25. Other disease of the respiratory system	—	—	—
26. Ulcer and stomach duodenum ...	1	—	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	—	—
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	2	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations ... ..	1	1	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined disease	2	6	8
33. Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	3	1	4
34. All other accidents ... ..	1	2	3
35. Suicide ... ..	2	1	3
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—

**SECTION B. General Provision of Health Services.**

(a) **Laboratory Facilities.**—Bacteriological examinations are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Northampton, and the Laboratory of the Kettering General Hospital. The following specimens were examined:—

Throat	...	...	...	...	...	1
Faeces	...	...	...	...	...	16
						<hr/>
						17
						<hr/>

(b) **Ambulance Facilities.**—The County Council is responsible for Ambulance Services. The St. John Ambulance Brigade carry out the Service on behalf of the County Council for Non-Infectious cases.

(c) **Nursing in the Home.**—The County Council is responsible for the Home Nursing Service.

(d) **Treatment Centres and Clinics.**—A County Council Welfare Clinic is held monthly in the parishes of Broughton, Geddington, Gretton and Weldon. A Medical Officer attends each session.

The treatment of Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases is carried out by the Regional Hospital Board.

**DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION**

The number of children who were immunised in 1954 is as follows:—

Under 5 years of age	...	...	...	84
5 to 14 years of age	...	...	...	7
				<hr/>
TOTAL	...	...	...	91
				<hr/>
Boosters	...	...	...	74

The number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1954 is as follows:—

Age at 31.12.54	Under 1	1	2	3	4
i.e. Born in Year	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
No. immunised	13	113	129	117	140
Age at 31.12.54	5 - 9		10 - 14		Total
i.e. Born in Year	1945 - 49		1940 - 44		Under 15
No. immunised	745		640		1,897

## WHOOPING COUGH VACCINATION

	Under 1	1 - 4	5 - 14	Total
Whooping Cough only ... ..	—	5	—	5
Combined Diphtheria/Pertussis ...	118	83	2	203

\*The combined Diphtheria/Pertussis figures are included in the figures for Diphtheria Immunisation.

## VACCINATION

The following table gives the number of vaccinations undertaken during the year 1954:—

	Under 1	1 - 4	5 - 14	15 or over	Total
Primary ... ..	40	1	3	5	49
Re-vaccination ...	—	3	—	16	19

**National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 47.**—No formal action had to be taken during the year.

### SECTION C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

**Water Supply.**—During the year the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board commenced work on the North West Regional Scheme which is designed to take main water supplies to the following villages:—Brampton Ash, Dingley, Sutton Bassett, Weston-by-Welland, Ashley, Stoke Albany, Wilbarston, East Carlton, Middleton, and Cottingham.

The work on this scheme has progressed satisfactorily and although a full supply of water to all these villages is dependent upon the completion of the Pitsford Reservoir, it is hoped that the Water Board will be able to provide a temporary supply as soon as the laying of the water mains is completed, in order to avoid the difficulties which have hitherto been experienced annually in this dry area.

The village of Rushton is supplied with a main water supply by the private estate, which derives its water from a spring situated approximately half-a-mile to the east of the village. During the month of July it was found that this supply had become subjected to contamination of a faecal origin. Investigations pointed to the contamination arising from the area of land immediately adjacent to the spring, which was in the process of being quarried for iron-ore. Chlorination treatment of the water in the elevated storage tank was resorted to immediately the contamination was found to exist. Strict measures were taken concerning the employees in the quarry, in order to prevent any further contamination. Subsequent regular bacteriological tests proved that the purity of the water had been restored.

Twenty-one parishes in the district are provided with main water supplies, which with the exception of the case reported above, have been satisfactory, both in quality and quantity throughout the year. The Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board carry out regular



bacteriological and chemical samplings of the various supplies under their control. None of the water supplies in the district is liable to have plumbo-solvent action. The following table headed "Water Supplies" gives detailed information concerning the water supplies in each of the thirty parishes comprising the Rural District.

The total number of dwellings is 3,989 and of these 3,113 are supplied with piped water, either from public mains or private water undertakings.

### WATER SUPPLIES

Parish	Estimated Population :	Total No. of Houses in Parish	No of Houses obtaining water from piped supplies	No. of Houses obtaining water from private and public wells	Remarks
Ashley ... ..	176	61	10	51	Private Wells.
Brampton Ash	157	51	19	32	do.
Braybrooke ...	265	90	61	29	Public Mains.
Broughton ...	1513	507	453	54	do.
Cottingham ...	606	230	145	85	Private & Public Wells.
Cranford ...	465	168	156	12	Public Mains.
Cransley ...	310	117	85	32	do.
Dingley ...	82	29	15	14	Private Wells.
East Carlton	255	70	67	3	Private Estate. Supply.
Geddington ...	1153	446	375	71	Public Mains.
Grafton Underwood	312	105	98	7	do.
Gretton ...	1031	294	257	37	do.
Harrington ...	144	51	43	8	do.
Loddington ...	315	117	69	48	do.
Middleton ...	284	90	24	66	Private & Public Wells.
Newton ...	116	34	34	—	Public Mains.
Oakley ... ..	270	85	63	22	do.
Orton ... ..	62	19	17	2	do.
Pytchley ...	514	178	177	1	do.
Rockingham ...	180	57	57	—	Private Estate Supply.
Rushton ...	393	144	102	42	do.
Stanion ...	305	116	84	32	Public Mains.
Stoke Albany	257	90	67	23	Private and Public Wells.
Sutton Bassett	71	26	5	21	do.
Thorpe Malsor ...	107	46	46	—	Public Mains.
Warkton ...	166	54	54	—	Private Estate.
Weekley ...	207	61	61	—	do.
Weldon ... ..	1648	443	416	27	Public Mains.
Weston-by Welland ...	112	47	15	32	Private and Public Wells.
Wilbarston ...	494	163	38	125	do.
TOTALS	11970	3989	3113	876	



**Drainage and Sewerage.**—The Rural Council has continued its vigorous campaign in providing all the villages within its area with a modern sewerage scheme. The schemes in the four largest villages, Broughton, Gretton, Weldon and Geddington had been completed in earlier years. During the course of 1954 four other schemes were approved and commenced in the villages of Rushton (part scheme), Grafton Underwood, Braybrooke and Rockingham, and in each of these cases the work has progressed satisfactorily throughout the year.

The scheme in the case of Rushton is to enable the new Council Housing estate on the Desborough Road to be developed and effectively drained, and it is hoped that the Ministry of Housing and Local Government will, in the very near future, allow the Council to complete the whole scheme for the village.

The small picturesque village of Grafton Underwood has, in the past, had to rely on the stream which flows by the roadside throughout the length of the village for the disposal of all foul drainage, which has resulted in the stream, particularly in the summer, becoming grossly polluted and resembling an open sewer. The advent of the modern sewerage scheme will enable great improvements to be made on the stream, and it will be reclaimed as an amenity to the village.

During the year the Council also received Ministerial approval to its proposed sewerage scheme for the village of Loddington. It is hoped that the scheme will be allowed to go forward during the coming year.

The Housing Act, 1949 enables property owners to apply for grants towards the improvement of their property by the installation of modern sanitation, bathrooms etc. The Rural District Council has always been ready to give approval to all suitable applications of this nature. It is very pleasing to note the extensive use which is being made of the Improvement Grant provisions, particularly in villages where the installation of new sewerage schemes enables such improvements to be made to properties which hitherto had only the most primitive form of drainage.

Throughout the year the various sewage disposal works throughout the district have functioned very satisfactorily ; the effluents in all cases being of a very high standard. Unfortunately the difficulty remains concerning the ultimate disposal of dry sludge.

**Refuse and Nightsoil Collections.**—Household refuse is collected by the Council throughout the whole of the district. This work is carried out on a fortnightly schedule by two collecting teams each comprised of three men using covered refuse vehicles and the service has been satisfactorily maintained throughout the year.

The disposal of all the refuse collected in the district is by means of tipping into disused quarries, all of which are remotely situated. All the refuse tips in use during the year were kept under observation, and regular treatments were carried out by the Council's Rodent Operator, to prevent rat infestations, which proved quite effective.

The whole question of refuse collection was examined by the Council towards the end of the year when the possibilities of changing the interval of collections from fortnightly to weekly was fully investigated. Whilst readily agreeing that a weekly collection of refuse would be most welcome, it was found that the present fortnightly collection does appear to be meeting the needs of the district, and so long as this is so, it was considered, that in view of the heavy cost involved, it was not an opportune time to introduce a weekly collection.

The Council have, as in previous years, engaged a private Contractor to carry out a weekly collection of nightsoil from all the premises in the district provided with pail closets, which number approximately 760. This number is of course diminishing from year to year as properties are connected to new sewerage schemes, and modern sanitation provided to replace the obsolete and insanitary pail closets. The work of collection was carried out satisfactorily throughout the year. An arrangement was agreed with the Kettering Borough Corporation for the disposal of all the nightsoil collected by means of tipping into the town's main outfall sewer at a suitable point outside the precincts of the town.

**Rodent Control.**—The Council employs a full time Rodent Operator for the purpose of dealing with all complaints of vermin infestation. In addition his work also entails the regular inspection and treatment of all refuse tips, sewage works and sewers.

The following table gives the summary of the work carried out by the operator throughout the year and as will be seen a very small number of major infestations were discovered.

Type of Premises	No. of Premises visited	Degree of Infestation			Treatments		Estimated No. of Vermin destroyed
		Heavy 50-100	Med. 12-50	Small 1-12	Visits	Treatments	
Dwelling Houses - -	1097	12	63	905	4112	980	2960
Council's Refuse Tips, Sewage Works, etc. - - -	93	1	12	80	372	93	287
Business Premises -	5	—	2	3	20	5	32
Agricultural Premises -	6	1	4	1	27	6	83

**Moveable Dwellings.**—Licences were granted by the Council in respect of eight caravans stationed within the district. In addition a further caravan was found to be in use on an unsatisfactory site and its removal was brought about by the owner of the site taking legal action against the occupier.



Twenty-six visits of inspection were made during the year to these caravans and with the exception of the one case previously mentioned, were all found to be kept in a satisfactory condition.

**Verminous Premises.**—During the year the following infestations of insects were discovered and effective remedial action was taken in each case by the use of appropriate insecticidal spraying.

- 1 Grain Beetle.
- 3 Cluster Fly Infestations.
- 4 Cockroach Infestations.
- 5 Ant Infestations.

It is probably a reflection on the high standard of cleanliness throughout the Rural District, when one considers the apparent complete absence of Bed Bug (*Cimex Lectularius*) infestations.

**Disinfections.**—19 visits were made to premises where cases of infectious disease had occurred. Disinfection of rooms and bedding was carried out in 14 cases of infectious disease.

**Factories and Workshops.**—The following table indicates the number of factories (of each category) in the district, and shows the number of inspections made and contraventions discovered and remedied during the year.

1. **Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health :—

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	21	18	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	39	31	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises). ...	15	13	2	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>75</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>—</b>

2. **Cases in which defects were found** :—

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which Prosecu- tions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Reme- died (3)	To H.M. Inspec- tor (4)	By H.M. Inspec- tor (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.) ...	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature S.3.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.) :					
(a) insufficient ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>



## SECTION D.

**Housing.**—The Council's housing schemes were continued throughout the year and showed satisfactory progress, as shown by the following table:—

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Allocation</i>	<i>Total Completed</i>	<i>Under Construction</i>	<i>Completed in 1954</i>
Ashley ... ..	5	5	—	3
Brampton Ash	—	—	—	—
Braybrooke ...	14	14	—	—
Broughton ...	94	74	20	10
Cottingham/ Middleton ...	75	75	—	9
Cranford ...	25	22	3	—
Cransley ... ..	20	20	—	3
Dingley ... ..	4	4	—	—
East Carlton ...	2	2	—	—
Geddington ...	90	90	—	14
Grafton Underwood ...	—	—	—	—
Gretton ... ..	65	56	9	8
Harrington ...	8	8	—	—
Loddington ...	27	23	4	—
Newton ... ..	—	—	—	—
Oakley ... ..	—	—	—	—
Orton ... ..	2	2	—	—
Pytchley ... ..	49	43	6	14
Rockingham ...	6	6	—	—
Rushton ... ..	18	18	—	8
Stanion ... ..	26	26	—	4
Stoke Albany ...	14	6	8	—
Sutton Bassett ...	—	—	—	—
Thorpe Malsor	10	10	—	2
Warkton ... ..	—	—	—	—
Weekley ... ..	—	—	—	—
Weldon ... ..	75	75	—	7
Wilbarston ...	20	20	—	—
Weston-by- Welland ...	6	6	—	4
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>655</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>86</b>

During the year 1954 an additional 86 houses were completed and occupied, making the total of Council houses constructed since the end of the war 605. It is becoming apparent that the housing needs of many of the villages have largely been dealt with although the need for more houses still exists in the larger parishes. These remarks, do not however, take into consideration the possibility of clearing unfit houses but it is hoped that this aspect of rehousing will shortly be considered by the Council, when the housing survey of such properties now in progress, has been completed.

In addition to the Council houses built during the year, 17 private houses were erected and 9 were in course of construction.

The problem of re-housing families occupying temporary housing accommodation in converted military huts on the Grafton Underwood Aerodrome, still remains a matter of great urgency. From an original total of 54 families housed on this site, 23 were still in occupation at the beginning of 1954. During the year it was possible to re-house a further 14 families, leaving 9 to be re-housed at the end of the year. The conditions under which these families have to live is most regrettable and it is earnestly hoped that the whole site can be cleared in the very near future.

**Public Health and Housing Acts.**—Work under these Acts for the purpose of rectifying defects and abating nuisances has been continued throughout the year and the following tables give details of the routine work carried out:—

(1) Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:—			
1.	(a) No. of houses inspected for defects	...	131
	(b) Inspections made for the purpose	... ..	283
2.	(a) No. of houses inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations		17
	(b) Inspections made for the purpose	... ..	43
3.	No. of houses found to be in a state dangerous or injurious to health so as to be unfit for human habitation	... ..	17
4.	Dwelling houses (exclusive of those under preceding head not in all respects reasonably fit for inhabitation	... ..	43
(2) Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice:—			
	No. of defective dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	... ..	39
(3) Action under Statutory Powers:—			
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—			
1.	No. of houses in respect in which notices were served requiring repairs	... ..	—
2.	No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit by owners or the Local Authority after service of formal notice	... ..	—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—			
1.	No. of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	... ..	—
2.	No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after serving notices	... ..	—

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

1. No. of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	...	17
2. No. of houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	...	...	4
3. No. of houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 11, and still in force	...	...	13

A summary of sanitary defects remedied during the year is as follows:—

Drains relaid or repaired	...	...	79
Blocked drains cleared	...	...	22
Inspection Chambers repaired	...	...	27
Inspection Chambers provided	...	...	83
Vent and Soil Pipes provided or repaired			27
Pail Closets converted to W.C.s	...	...	61
W.C. compartments repaired	...	...	21
Septic Tanks and Cesspools repaired	...		5
Wells and Pumps repaired	...	...	23
Roofs repaired	...	...	37
Rain-water guttering repaired	...	...	25
Dampness in walls remedied	...	...	17
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	21
Doors repaired	...	...	19
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	...	...	52
Floors repaired or relaid	...	...	33
Sub-floor ventilation provided	...	...	4
Handrails provided to staircases	...	...	6
Stairs repaired	...	...	12
Ventilation to pantries provided	...	...	24
Paving repaired or relaid	...	...	17
Washing Coppers repaired	...	...	12
Sinks provided	...	...	35
Internal water service provided	...	...	143
Dustbins provided	...	...	47

## SECTION E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

**Milk Supply.**—The Council's duties with regard to milk supplies are now mainly restricted to the question of milk distribution and supervision of retailers of milk.



The following table gives the summary of the licenses and registrations granted by the Council during the year : —

Registered Distributors of Milk	...	...	5
Registered Dairies	...	...	5
Licensed Pasteurised Dealers	...	...	5
Licensed Tuberculin Tested Dealers	...	...	6
Dairies granted supplementary licences to retail Pasteurised Milk within the Rural District	...	...	8
Dairies granted supplementary licences to retail Tuberculin Tested Milk within the Rural District	...	...	7
Dairies granted supplementary licences to retail Sterilized Milk within the Rural District	...	...	1

All dairies in the district have been inspected at regular intervals and have found to be kept in a satisfactory condition.

**Meat Inspection.**—As a result of the decontrolling of meat supplies in July 1954, the Council received applications for the licencing of private slaughterhouses in respect of 6 slaughterhouses within the district, which had been previously used.

After considering each application separately, four of the licences were granted after the premises were brought up to a satisfactory standard, and two licences were refused, in respect of premises which were considered to be most unsatisfactory.

Since the inauguration of private slaughtering all animals killed have been inspected and the following table shows the number of such animals inspected up to the end of the year, together with the meat found to be diseased and condemned.

### Meat Inspection

<i>Animals Inspected</i>					
Cattle	...	...	...	...	143
Calves	...	...	...	...	11
Sheep	...	...	...	...	786
Pigs	...	...	...	...	315

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TOTAL ... 1255

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<i>Diseased Meat Condemned</i>				
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	416 lbs.
Other Diseases	...	...	...	352 lbs.

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TOTAL ... 768 lbs.

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It is very encouraging to note the marked decrease in the number of animals affected with Tuberculosis as compared with pre-war records.

All the meat found to be diseased and condemned is suitably stained to prevent its sale for food, and is subsequently collected and rendered for industrial purposes.

During the year the Council licensed 20 persons under the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty Regulations 1954) for the purpose of slaughtering animals.

Butchers shops in the district number six and these were found to be kept in a satisfactory manner throughout the year.

**Registration of Food Preparing Premises.**—The registration of premises for the manufacture or sale of ice cream, or for the manufacture of preserved foods under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act 1938, continued during the year. Frequent visits were made to such premises when conditions were found to conform with the regulations. The numbers of premises registered are as follows:—

Storage and sale of pre-packed ice-cream ...	41
The manufacture of sausage or potted or preserved food ... ..	5

**Bakehouses.**—The nine bakehouses in the district were visited regularly and the necessary cleansing was carried out as required. In eight of the bakehouses mechanical power is used, which brings them under the control of H.M. Inspector of Factories.

**Fried Fish Shops.**—Three premises in the district are used as fried fish shops, one each at Broughton, Cottingham and Weldon.

Inspections during the year proved that these premises were kept in a satisfactory condition.

## **SECTION F. Infectious Diseases.**

There were 87 cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year.

**Scarlet Fever.**—There were fourteen cases notified and of these four cases were removed to Hospital. All the cases recovered.

**Whooping Cough.**—Fifty-six cases were notified compared with two cases in 1953. One child was removed to Hospital and all cases recovered.

**Measles.**—There were thirteen cases compared with one hundred and forty-five cases in the previous year.

**Pneumonia.**—One case of Acute Primary Pneumonia occurred during the year.

**Sonne Dysentery.**—Three cases occurred during the year and the incidence was confined to one family.

**Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis (Paralytic).**—11 years F. This child was taken ill while on holiday in Ruislip, Middx., and was admitted to Hospital there and later returned home.

**TUBERCULOSIS**

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925. These regulations empower the Council to prevent persons suffering from Tuberculosis to engage in the milk trade. No action was taken during 1954.

During the year nine cases of Respiratory and one case of Non-respiratory Tuberculosis were notified of which two were Inward Transfers.

During the year two cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were removed from the Register as cured and one case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis removed to Northampton.

One Council House was allocated to a Tuberculous family during the year.

The number of cases in the Register at the end of 1954 was as follows:—

RESPIRATORY			NON-RESPIRATORY			<i>Grand Total</i>
<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	
25	21	46	6	8	14	<b>60</b>

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) 1954

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	3	—	6	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	5	2	12	5	26	4	1	1	—	—	56
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	6	4	13
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Sonne Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
TOTALS ...	3	—	11	3	14	7	26	7	1	1	7	7	87

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) 1954

Disease	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65+	All Ages	Removed to Hospital	Deaths	Age Unknown
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	4	3	6	—	1	—	—	—	—	14	4	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	5	7	2	8	4	27	1	—	—	2	—	—	56	1	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	1	3	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sonne Dysentery	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
TOTALS	5	7	4	15	9	42	1	1	—	2	—	1	87	5	—	—

### NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1954

Age Period	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	1	1	—
15—	—	—	—	—
25—	4	—	—	—
35—	1	1	—	—
45—	1	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—
65—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	7	2	1	—

### DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1954

Age Period	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	—	—	—
25—	—	—	—	—
35—	1	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—
65—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	2	—	—	—











